

CABINET PLANS MEANS TO END U-BOAT CRISIS

Lansing Explains German Attitude—Admits Situation Is Serious

DISCUSS THREE METHODS

President Bitterly Criticized in House by Mondell Despite Efforts of Leaders

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—The State Department today gave permission for the Italian steamships Giuseppe Verdi and San Guglielmo, both armed "for defense," to sail from New York harbor. The department has been considering since Friday the questions involved.

If the German Government follows the rules for submarine warfare laid down in its instructions to commanders before and during the war and iterated in Ambassador Bernstorff's discussion of his latest instructions yesterday, in which principles previously laid down were again avowed, Americans who wish to cross the Atlantic are in virtually no danger.

Unarmed merchantmen will not be attacked under any circumstances and as comparatively few of the ships sailing out from New York have any armament whatsoever, those embarking on this class of vessel can travel in perfect safety.

So far as passage on a merchantman, armed for defensive purposes, is concerned, the danger is virtually negligible. U-boat and other commanders were instructed in a general order issued June 23, 1914, before the outbreak of the war, and long before the launching of the undersea campaign, to safeguard the crews and passengers even of armed merchant vessels. The order in Admiralty is as follows:

If an armed enemy merchant vessel offers armed resistance against measures taken under the law of prize, such resistance is to be overcome with all means available. The enemy government bears all responsibility for any damages to the vessel, cargo and passengers. The crew are to be taken as prisoners of war. The passengers are to be left to go free, unless it appears that they participated in the resistance. In the latter case they may be proceeded against under extraordinary martial law.

Italy a few days ago consented to send its traders unarmed overseas on the basis of the United States' attitude in the armed liner situation.

American travelers run little practical risk of loss of life except through misunderstanding, accident, or rank disobedience of orders on the part of submarine commanders, according to German principles of naval warfare and pledges made since.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.

The international situation, so far as the submarine issue was concerned, continued serious today. Great Britain already has indicated that she will deny emphatically the German allegations that the Allies have violated international law in orders to merchant vessel commanders. Secretary of State Lansing felt constrained to make denial of optimistic reports, widely circulated in morning papers, the situation was such that the crisis had been passed.

The cabinet for more than an hour discussed the latest German suggestions. It was explained by Secretary Lansing that the position assumed by German Ambassador von Bernstorff and Austrian Charge Zwiadinek at yesterday's conferences showed conclusively that Germany and Austria will never agree that any vessel carrying arms is immune from attack without warning. This did not of necessity mean, the Secretary is understood to have pointed out, that an immediate violation of American rights was contemplated. But it added to get the gravity of the situation inasmuch as at any time something might develop which would force action by the United States.

CONSIDER THESE PLANS.

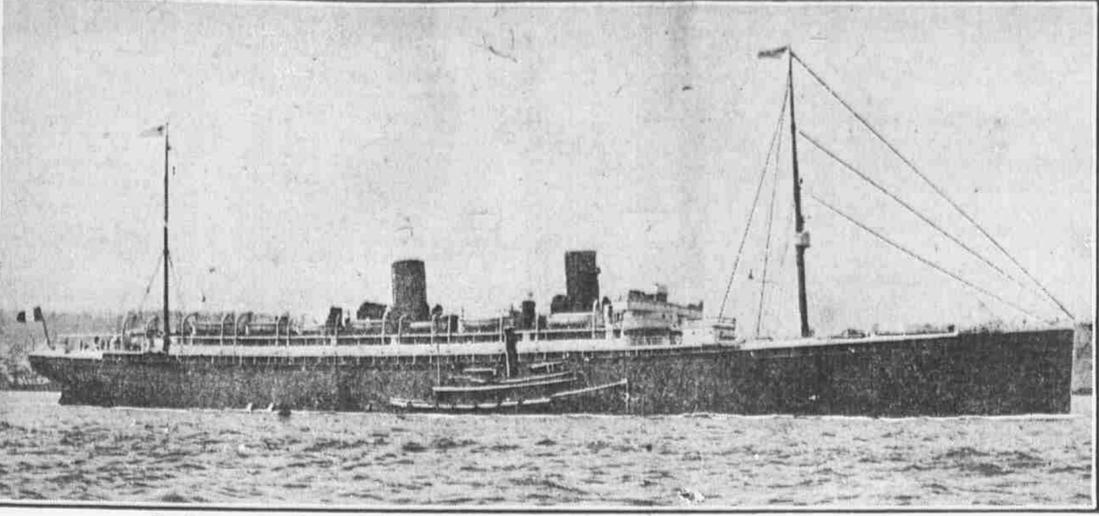
That a definite decision for action was reached by the cabinet was suggested in official circles, but under orders from the President the members declined to talk when the session broke up. Three propositions were possible, it was pointed out. They were as follows:

First.—That the State Department would indicate to the German ambassador that in view of the latest developments in the situation the United States would, if the appendices on route here seemed to raise a serious question as to the British methods of controlling merchantmen, desire to discuss just what constitutes armament for defense.

Second.—That the United States considers that the announcement of a new submarine warfare by Teutonic submarines violates the implied pledges in the cases of the Lusitania, the Arabic and the Ancona.

Third.—That the assurances in the above cases are acceptable to the United States, but that they cover pledges of the

LINER PROVENCE AS SHE APPEARED ON LAST TRIP TO U. S.



The Provence was the newest ship of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, known as the French line.

BERLIN SAYS LUSITANIA PLEDGES ONLY COVERED UNARMED LINERS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—The text of the German reply to the United States' demand of the Berlin position on U-boat warfare was given out today as follows:

The Imperial Government reiterates the pledge given on September 1 and October 15, 1915, and does not consider that these assurances have been modified by subsequent events.

The negotiations conducted between the American and German Governments concerning the Lusitania incident never referred to armed merchantmen. On the contrary, the note of the American Government of May 13 spoke expressly of "unarmed merchantmen" furthermore, the formula agreed upon by both Governments on September 1 contained the proviso "provided that they do not offer resistance."

The presence of armament on board a merchantman creates the presumption that the vessel intends "to offer resistance." A submarine commander cannot possibly warn an enemy liner, if the liner has the right to fire on the submarine. It is obvious that such resistance is for defensive purposes, even if it were universally recognized that defensive armament is permitted by international law.

(This point of view was adopted by the American Government when it requested assurances from the Italian Ambassador that the armed Italian boats, Verdi and Verona, which entered the port of New York, would not fire on submarines, when warned by them.)

The Imperial Government issued its new orders to the German naval commanders after having seen by the secret orders of the British Admiralty that the armament of British merchantmen is to be used for the purpose of attack and that these ships are not merely peaceful traders "armed only for defense."

British merchantmen have furthermore on several occasions attacked German or Austro-Hungarian submarines. They do not, therefore, come within the assurances given by the British Government in the note of the British Ambassador in Washington on August 25, 1914, and can even, according to the legal point of view adopted by the American Government, not be regarded as peaceful traders.

In issuing the new orders to its naval commanders the Imperial Government believed itself to be entirely in accord with the American Government which expressed similar opinions in the proposals which it submitted to the Entente Powers. The orders issued to the German naval commanders are so formulated that enemy liners may not be destroyed on account of their armament unless such armament is proved. It is, therefore, obvious that the Imperial Government does not intend to revoke the pledges given September 1 and October 15, 1915.

The Imperial Government welcomes the intention of the American Government to bring about a modus vivendi between the belligerents with regard to the disarmament of merchantmen, but cannot see its way to change or postpone the new orders to its naval commanders, because the Imperial Government can no longer permit its submarines to be subjected to illegal attacks by armed enemy merchantmen.

The document is signed by Count von Bernstorff. A list of British vessels, which are alleged to have attacked German or Austrian submarines, was appended to the memorandum when it was delivered to the State Department.

past, and that they must be backed up by the performances of the future.

Secretary Lansing went to the White House at 10 o'clock this morning and conferred with President Wilson on the latest communication submitted to this Government by Germany on the submarine policy to be inaugurated at midnight to-night.

Before going to the White House the Secretary was asked if the optimism over the international situation as recorded in the press was warranted by the facts. He replied that the State Department would issue a statement saying reports were unjustified by the facts.

The Secretary was obviously out of patience with certain lengthy statements credited to the State Department which tended to indicate that the negotiations with Germany had reached a most satisfactory point. He said he had made no comment whatever on the situation and that nothing that had been said in his department could have been construed as being an optimistic view "or any other kind of view" on the situation.

The Secretary remained with the President until the cabinet meeting at 11 o'clock.

The statement given out at his office later, follows: "In view of the publication this morning of what purports to be the view of the State Department on the communication received yesterday from the German Ambassador, I wish to say that the contents of the communication have not been made public by me, and that any statement as to the views of the State Department on the communication are absolutely unauthorized. I have made no comment and expressed no opinion in regard to the matter."

MONDELL SCORES WILSON. The lid upon debate in Congress regarding the dispute with Germany was blown off today. Disregarding the Administration's desire to prevent open discussion, Representative Mondell, Republican, Wyoming, today delivered a lengthy address in the House, bitterly criticizing President Wilson's refusal to warn Americans of armed ships.

"Any neutral country that has any regard for the lives of its citizens or its own peace and honor, any nation that desires to escape complications that may lead to war, and any nation that is as a spider's web, will not allow its citizens to wantonly expose themselves to harm and their nation to the horrors of war," said Mondell. His speech threatened to provoke an outburst of debate from both factions in the House.

"The President strikes a pose of mock heroism," said Mondell. "When did it become so tremendously sacred an American right to ride on an armed ship. Why this sudden insistence by the Administration to become a party to a situation created by greed and savagery of the nations at war that may involve us in a long, bloody and causeless war?"

SCHOLASTIC STAR DIES Floyd Hughes, Cape May High Catcher, Was Ill With Pneumonia

CAPE MAY, N. J., Feb. 29.—Word has just been received here that Floyd Hughes, star catcher on last season's Cape May High School team, died at Pennsgrove, N. J., of pneumonia.

Hughes had a bright future as a baseball player, as he was big and rangy, and had an excellent arm. He recently married Miss Lulu Hughes, the telephone operator at the police headquarters in this city.

EXPLOSION KILLS SIX AND IMPRISONS NINE IN MARYLAND MINE

Blast From Unknown Cause Traps Workmen in Kempton Shaft, Davis Company, in Garrett County

FOUR MINERS INJURED

CUMBERLAND, Md., Feb. 29.—Seventy-one miners, a few of whom are Americans, this morning, were caught by an explosion, from unknown cause, at the Kempton mine of the Davis Coal and Coke Company, on a spur of the Western Maryland Railway about two miles from Fairfax, W. Va., on the main line, about 70 miles south of Cumberland.

Sixty-two men have been taken out, six dead and four injured. The others rescued are unhurt and a large force is now attempting to reach the nine others remaining in the mine, all of whom are thought to be alive and uninjured.

The mine is located in Garrett County, Md., and is new, equipped with all modern machinery. It is a shaft mine, 430 feet deep, with seven or eight miles of headings. The machinery of the mine was not damaged, and the cage working expedited the rescue of the imprisoned men. The explosion occurred at 6:45 o'clock about 2000 feet from the shaft bottom. Falls of coal are delaying the rescue work, preventing men from going in promptly. The mine is devoid of gas.

The identification of the men taken out has not yet been established. Several are burned and badly maimed. The mine has a capacity of about 2000 tons a day.

Falls From Truck Seat, Killed WILMINGTON, Del., Feb. 29.—Ernest Kreer, 27 years old, suddenly fainting while riding with his brother, George W. Kreer, Jr., on a motortruck last evening, fell in front of the machine, was run over and killed. George was the driver. He is employed by the Armour Company and his brother had joined him on the truck for a ride.

ORPHAN, EIGHT YEARS OLD, KEEPS SECOND BIRTHDAY

Harry Cain, However, Fudges Sometimes and Observes March 1

This is the second anniversary of the birth of Harry Cain, who is, nevertheless, 8 years old. He was born on February 23, 1908. So there was a birthday party today at the Methodist Episcopal Orphanage in Overbrook, where Harry lives.

The boy's father is dead; his mother, Mrs. Rose Cain, lives at 6330 Reedland street. She went to see him today to bring the birthday presents which, if she adheres strictly to the rule, will not be repeated until 1920, when February 23 will appear on the calendar again. But the rule has never been strictly adhered to. The boy has counted March 1 as his birthday and that day was celebrated as such, but today there is no doubt about it—it is really one of Harry's few birthday anniversaries.

Lambertville Store Burned

LAMBERTVILLE, N. J., Feb. 29.—The department store of Harry Groginsky, at 41 and 43 North Main street, was destroyed by fire at 1 o'clock this morning. The damage amounts to \$15,000. The insurance is \$12,000. The cause of the fire is unknown.

J. E. Caldwell & Co. 902 Chestnut Street Single Pearls for addition to and improvement of Necklaces

Advertisement for Franco-American Soups. Includes text: 'the soup of the epicure', 'It was a good enough dinner to be sure, but it was not a dinner to ask a man to,' said old Dr. Johnson. And his remark has been the bugbear of hostesses ever since. Were the old Doctor alive today he would never have occasion to pass his famous comment on a dinner where Franco-American Soup is served. For it is the peculiar distinction of these soups that they appear on dinner tables where "Perfection's highest touch" is attained. The Franco-American reputation means more than quality of materials, more than care in preparation, more than scientific cooking. That nice balance between nourishment and condiment, so dear to the sensitive palate, is not the result of a formula, but a personality. In the delicious and individual flavor of these soups is betrayed the inimitable touch of the French culinary expert. Franco-American Soups are served not only in homes of luxury, but wherever good food is not regarded as an extravagance. Thirty-five cents the quart. Merely heat before serving. At the better stores. Twenty selections. PERRY & CO. "N. B. T." 16th & Chestnut Sta.

Advertisement for Purock Water. Includes text: 'The Bath INTERNAL', 'Water is to cleanse, not to nourish; to remove body impurities and not to deposit the varying quantities of mineral salts found in natural waters. Purock Water is absolutely pure that it may thoroughly cleanse and absorb. It is right to drink water to quench thirst, but it is far better to drink it to promote health. To be assured of purity you must drink Purock. It is the most healthful habit you can form. Purock Water is delivered to offices and homes in sterilized, sealed glass bottles. Six large bottles or a five-gallon demijohn, 40 cents. Order a case, use one bottle. If water fails to please, we will, at your request, remove the case and make no charge. DRINK Purock WATER. THE CHARLES E. HIRE CO., 210 S. 24th St., Philadelphia. BOTH PHONES.

Advertisement for The 40 Candy Shop. Includes text: 'The 40 CANDY SHOP AND 60 BREAD SHOP SIX FEET BELOW BROAD ST. IN THE LINCOLN BUILDING BROAD ABOVE CHESTNUT OPEN UNTIL MIDNIGHT. Punctuality isn't always praiseworthy. She'd rather you were ten minutes late and brought a Box of Candy—than if you came on time, empty-handed!'

Advertisement for Final Clearaway of Perry Suits and Overcoats. Includes text: 'Final Clearaway of Perry Suits and Overcoats at One Uniform Price—\$15. Your last chance to score on a sale of Perry Suits and Overcoats this Winter! The new Spring goods are piling in and we need the room! The prices on fabrics for next Fall's stock are still on the rise, and you need the proverbial ounce of prevention! It's offered you in this final sale—a \$20, \$22.50, \$25 Suit or Overcoat that's sure to cost \$25 to \$30 eight months from now—in this closing sale—\$15! (About 250 light-weight Overcoats included in the sale at this one Uniform Price of \$15!)

Advertisement for PERRY & CO. "N. B. T." 16th & Chestnut Sta. Includes text: 'PERRY & CO. "N. B. T." 16th & Chestnut Sta. With hardwood floors in your home you have all the advantages of a private dancehall in addition to the advantages of beauty, durability and sanitary conveniences hardwood affords. PINKERTON 3034 W. York St. A GOOD FOOT RULE It is to keep your feet in good condition. HANNA & CO. 1285 CHESTNUT ST. CORNER 12th & CHESTNUT STS. PHILADELPHIA, PA.